

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 22250 061139Z

46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 DHA-02

ORM-02 DPW-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /087 W

----- 030667

R 061049Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1793

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 22250

FOL TEL SENT ACTION BANGKOK IMMEDIATE INFO VIENTIANE CHIANG MAI
FROM UDORN DATED AUG 6, 1976 REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 5729

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS:PBOR, PINT, TH, LA

SUBJ: PM'S VISIT TO NORTHEAST

1. IN COURTESY CALL ON UDORN GOVERNOR WICHEN WETSAWAN AUGUST 6
HE CONFIRMED EARLIER REPORT WE HAD RECEIVED THAT PM SENI PRAMOJ
IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT UDORN AND NONG KHAI PROVINCES AUGUST
7. WICHEN STATED THAT PM WILL ARRIVE UDORN BY AIR AND THEN
PROCEED OVERLAND TO NONG KHAI TO MEET WITH GOVERNOR AND OTHER
LOCAL OFFICIALS.

2. WICHEN WOULD NOT DISCLOSE PURPOSE OF PM'S MEETING IN NONG
KHAI, STATING THAT IT CONCERNED CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (OUR
HUNCH IS THAT PM'S VISIT IS RELATED TO RECENT THAI-LAO BORDER
DISCUSSIONS). WICHEN ADDED THAT FOLLOWING NONG KHAI MEETING PM
WILL RETURN TO UDORN TO PRESIDE OVER INAUGURATION OF NEW
PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF DEMOCRAT PARTY AND THEN DEPART FOR BANGKOK
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 22250 061139Z

IN EARLY EVENING.

3. ON SUBJECT OF THAI-LAO BORDER TALKS WICHEN SAID THAT HE IS PERSONALLY OPPOSED TO RE-OPENING OF ADDITIONAL BORDER CROSSING WITH LAOS BECAUSE HE BELIEVES LAOTIANS STAND TO GAIN FAR MORE THAN DO THAIS, FROM MORE OPEN BORDER. HE CLAIMED THAT GOVERNORS OF BORDER PROVINCES SHARE THIS VIEW, ADDING THAT THEIR EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO EXPANDED BORDER CROSSINGS IN RECENT MEETING WITH FORMIN BICHAI WAS A DISAPPOINTMENT TO BICHAI. WICHEN NOTED, NONETHELESS, THAT RTG WILL PROBABLY PROCEED ANYWAY TO REOPEN TWO OR THREE ADDITIONAL BORDER PASSES WITH LAOS (HE SAID NAKHON PHANOM AND UBON PROVINCES ARE MOST LIKELY SITES) IN NEAR FUTURE.
FINNEY

UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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